

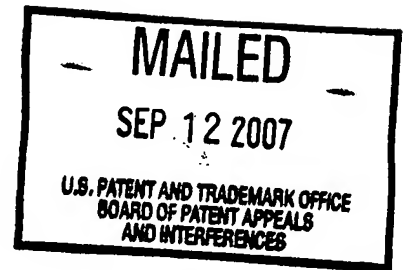
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte DUANE A. LUNSFORD
and
JIMMIE RAE BARAN, JR.

Application 10/689,172

ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER



A Supplemental Examiner's Answer was mailed on September 4, 2007, in response to the Panel Remand mailed April 30, 2007. However, this Answer is deficient pursuant to § 1207.05 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) (Eighth Edition, Rev. 3, August 2005) which states that "[e]very supplemental examiner's answer must be approved by a Technology Center (TC) Director or designee." It should be noted that TC 1700 allows approval by the Director or a Quality Assurance Specialist (QAS). Correction is required.

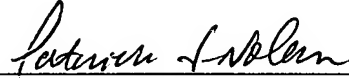
Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is returned to the Examiner:

1) for obtaining the signature of the TC Director or QAS on the Supplemental Examiner's Answer mailed September 4, 2007; and

2) for such further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

By: 
PATRICK J. NOLAN
Deputy Chief Appeals Administrator
(571) 272-9797

PJN:psb

3M Innovative Properties Company
P.O. Box 33427
St. Paul, MN 55133-3427